



Climate Change & Wildfires Implications for Forest Management & WQ Regulation

Greg Giusti and John Corbett, Board members
North Coast Regional Board

October 24, 2018

Wildfire Factors and Impacts

- Climate Change & Wildfires
- Climatic Factors
- Land Management Factors
- Impacts from Wildfires





Challenges

- Post-fire environmental risks
 - ✓ Erosion and land slides
 - ✓ Decay of burned trees
- Scale of impacts can be huge
- Roads network
- NEPA and CEQA
 - ✓ Environmental review can slow down restoration actions



What can be done?

- Must respond to trends
- Changes to forest management
 - ✓ Fuels management & post-fire salvage
 - ✓ Roads management
- Incentives for large land owners
- Inter-agency coordination
- Regulatory tools in place before disaster strikes



Region 1 Regulatory Response

- US Forest Service Waiver
 - ✓ Post-fire salvage and restoration projects
- Timber Categorical Waiver
 - ✓ Exemptions for post-fire salvage projects
 - ✓ Staff drafting revisions to more comprehensively address WQ protections while streamlining response actions
- Disaster Related Wastes Waiver
 - ✓ Debris management

Comments & Questions

